



246164

L 007

Technical Contact: Steve

Faryan
(312) 353-9351

Media Contact: Derrick

Kimbrough

(312) 886-9749

For Immediate Release: HOLD

No. 95-SF

EPA CONTINUES CLEANUP AT CHICAGO INTERNATIONAL EXPORTING INC. FACILITY

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said today that the Superfund Removal Action at the Chicago International Exporting Inc. facility located at 4004 South Wentworth, in Chicago, is progressing very well.

The primary health concern at the operating scrap yard is polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), lead, and cadmium which were found in concentrations which posed a threat to public health. The contamination is a result of past and present operations which included cutting and burning of PCB transformers, disposal of ash from a former wire incinerator, and releases of PCBs from the shredding of electric motors and recovery of copper.

The Cleanup will include the complete excavation of the contaminated soil which are above U.S.EPA health standards. The contaminated soil is being transported via rialcar and disposed at an approved landfill which is in compliance with all U.S EPA regulations. In addition, the U.S.EPA is conducting periodic air and soil sampling on site and at the perimeter for PCBs and lead to assure no contamination is leaving the site. The removal will also address the excavation and disposal of underground storage tanks, contaminated debris and metal, and a concrete pad from the

former wire incinerator will have to be demolished to remove lead contaminated soil that lies underneath. The concrete pad that lies beneath the current motor shredding operations will be cleared of all contaminated metal and debris and the concrete will be decontaminated with a high pressure washer.

The cleanup is scheduled to be complete by **April of 1995.**

###